

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Lotte Madsen, et al.
Serial No.: 10 / 581,048
Filed: 05 April 2007
Title: DRESSING PRODUCT

Art Unit: 3772
Examiner: Kim M. Lewis
Conf. No.: 7119

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Via EFS-Web Only

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This communication is in response to an Office Action requiring restriction herein, mailed on 30 January, 2009.

An *Election* begins on page 2.

Election

In the above referenced Office Action, claims 1-22 were subject to a restriction requirement as allegedly not relating to a single, general inventive concept as follows:

Group I, claims 1-18 and 22 drawn to a dressing product and method comprising a carrier system, wherein the carrier system comprises a supporting section and a protective sheet adjoined along a line;

Group II, claims 19 and 20, drawn to a dressing product comprising a carrier system, wherein the carrier system defines a cavity for accommodating the dressing sheet; and

Group III, claim 21, drawn to a dressing product comprising a carrier system, the carrier system comprises a thread arranged between the adhering surface of the dressing sheet and the carrier system extending beyond a bound of the dressing sheet.

The Examiner's attention is respectfully drawn, however, to the Office Action Summary which states that claims 1-25 are pending and that claims 1-25 are subject to restriction. But in the Detailed Action, only claims 1-22 are identified in the aforementioned Groups I-III. Claim 23 depends from claim 22 in Group I; and claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 1 in Group I.

Applicants therefore provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-18 and 22, along with unidentified claims 23-25, for further prosecution herein with traverse. 37 CFR §1.143; MPEP §818.03.

In traversing the restriction, Applicants respectfully note if "the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions." MPEP §803. Herein, Applicants respectfully assert that all claims 1-25 could be examined together without serious burden because they each pertain to a dressing product including a dressing sheet having an adhesive surface. By prosecuting claims 1-25 together, searches could be consolidated and their subject matter could be readily examined. Therefore, examination of claims 1-25 together would be administratively efficient for the Office, and such actions is respectfully requested.

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Finally, Applicants hereby reserve a right to prosecute non-elected claims 19 and 20 (Group II) and 21 (Group III) in one or more subsequent applications.

CONCLUSION

No claims have been amended herein. Claims 1-18, 22, and 23-25 have been provisionally elected for prosecution, with traverse.

A one-month period for response had been set herein. Since this reply is being timely submitted, no fee should be due. However, if a fee is due, then the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-4439.

Applicants submit that claims 1-18, 22, and 23-25 are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned counsel if such would further prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
Lotte Madsen, et al.

Dated: 17 February, 2009

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